

# The Greater Kansas City AACN

Chapter of The American Association of Critical Care Nurses

## *Excellent Encouragement from National AACN President Kristine Peterson*

*Should I be doing this? Why do we do it this way? Is there a better way?*

How many times did you want to ask these questions but didn't have time? I hear them a lot as a clinical nurse specialist. A procedure or guideline may have answers, but they often lead to more questions. Where do we turn when we truly don't know what to do?

I urge my colleagues to practice according to the best available evidence. Follow the evidence, I tell them, and I know I've influenced the practice of someone who challenges me to show them the evidence.

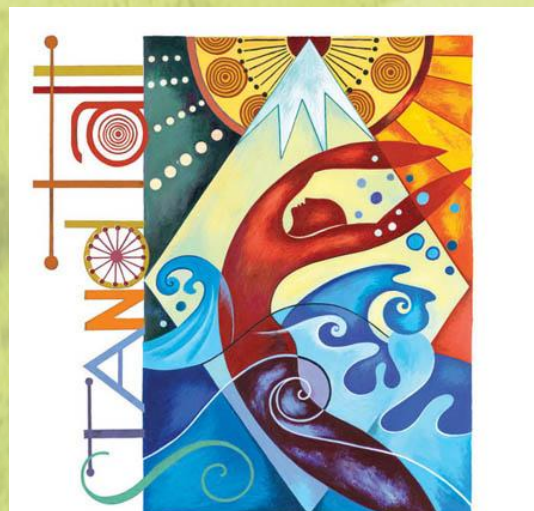
The promise nurses make to patients and families involves doing our best for them by using the best practices available. We stand tall and fulfill our promise when our practice is evidence-based. Evidence-based practice (EBP) is a widely used term. However, like beauty, what constitutes evidence seems to be in the eye of the beholder. Definitions and perspectives vary from caregiver to caregiver, although most seem to agree it means to find, review and grade available research then make an informed practice decision based on the results.

Doing that can be complex and takes time. It may not even be that interesting to many of us, which is where AACN comes in.

AACN's community of exceptional experts and leaders provides an unshakable 40-year-old foundation of evidence to support us in standing tall. We can talk to them in person during National Teaching Institute & Critical Care Exposition, A Slice of AACN and other world-class learning programs. At [aacn.org](http://aacn.org) you will find role-based links to hundreds of AACN resources—peer-reviewed journals, free online articles search and standards. Evidence-based resources include practice protocols and practice alerts, what are succinct, dynamic directives based on authoritative evidence.

Join your exceptional colleagues as you follow the evidence and increase your stature by belonging to the AACN community.

(Taken from *Bold Voices* November 2010)



*Our vision is dedicated to creating a health care system driven by the needs of patients and families where critical care nurse make a difference.*

**Chapter Honors**  
**Janet Pierce, RN, PhD, CCRN**

The GKC Chapter of AACN is proud to bestow an award for Dr. Janet D. Pierce. Dr. Janet Pierce has been a strong supporter of AACN and the Chapter for many years. Not only is she one of our Past Presidents, she also supports us in many ways.

She is a research mentor and has shared her significant research to our critical care nursing community any time we have asked her.

She attends Visions every year and has been a speaker several times for us and she speaks without charging us! She shares her interesting program of research with us and inspires us to think beyond our current practice.

Not only is she an inspiration to us, she also inspires students at the University of Kansas Medical Center.

Dr. Pierce obtained her BSN from the University of Oklahoma and both a master's degree and doctorate in Nursing from the University of Alabama. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Medical College of Virginia.

She serves as a Captain in the US Navy Reserve which allows her the opportunity to stay clinically current and maintain her CCRN certification.

Written by Caryl Goodyear-Bruch

**The Board is excited to share upcoming projects:**

- ✓ **Technology Update** Look out for an attractive new web site as well as a large digital frame to display our events at various functions.
- ✓ **Certification Dinner** We are in the planning stages of a dinner to recognize those who have achieved and maintained their certification!
- ✓ **Leadership Development Workshop** Funds have been allotted to send two members to the LDWS that is held prior to NTI.
- ✓ **Membership Drive** We are looking to spread the word about our organization! We plan to hold a drive to help increase local awareness and increase membership to the local chapter.

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**We are on Facebook!**



Make sure to check out and "Like" our Facebook page!  
We are listed as AACN-Greater Kansas City Chapter.

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**VISIONS~ Save the Date!**

March 3 & 4, 2010

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Greater Kansas City AACN Chapter

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\*Please see Scholarship Packet Attached\*